

MINUTES OF THE OPEN MEETING OF THE ARIZONA STATE
BOXING AND MIXED MARTIAL ARTS COMMISSION
August 15, 2011

A Meeting of the Arizona State Boxing and MMA Commission was held on August 15, 2011 at 1110 W. Washington Street, Conference Room 250, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

Members Present: Joe Pennington Commissioner (via phone)
Scott Fletcher Commissioner (via phone)

Also Present: Dennis R. O'Connell, Executive Director, Boxing & MMA Commission
Matthew Valenzuela, Boxing & MMA Assistant
Mary Williams, Assistant Attorney General

A. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:

1. Pursuant to motion from Mr. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. Pennington, the minutes of the Commission's July 11, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. Pursuant to motion from Mr. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. Pennington, the minutes of the Commission's July 13, 2011 special meeting were unanimously approved.

B. License Applications:

1. Pursuant to motion by Mr. Pennington, seconded by Mr. Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved the corporate promoter license application of Nicole Forzano, Apex MMA Promotions.

C. Event Request Dates:

1. Pursuant to motions from Mr. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. Pennington, the following event requests were unanimously approved:
 - a. The change of event date from Cage Warriors, Rage in the Cage for an MMA event at the Gila River Wild Horse Pass from September 17th to September 9, 2011.
 - b. The request by Cesar Ortiz for approval of an MMA event in San Manuel, AZ Saturday, September 10, 2011.
 - c. The request by Showdown Promotion for a professional boxing show at the Blue Water Casino/Hotel in Parker, AZ on September 17, 2011.
 - d. The request by Apex MMA Promotions for an MMA event (tournament-style) at the Desert Diamond Casino on October 15, 2011.
 - e. The request by Fanbase Promotions for approval of a professional boxing event at the US Airways Arena on December 3, 2011.

D. Information Reports:

1. Mr. O'Connell provided an updated event schedule.
2. Mr. Valenzuela summarized his written follow-up report of his visit with the Nevada Commission on June 3, 4, 2011.
3. Mr. O'Connell reported on the Association of Boxing Commission's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. August 1-4 which he and Commissioner Pennington attended. Three agenda items important to Arizona regulation were: medical requirements for boxers and

MMA contestants over 36 years of age; physical and licensing considerations for contestants who are missing one or more limbs; and, amateur MMA guidelines.

4. Mr. O'Connell provided a summary of boxing and MMA activity for FY 2011.
5. Mr. O'Connell stated that a Notice of Claim against the State of Arizona had been filed on behalf of MMA contestant Diana Fowles. Ms. Williams explained that if no action were taken by the State within 60 days, the claim would be deemed denied. After that, a legal proceeding could be initiated. In that instance, another Assistant Attorney General working with the State's Risk Management Department would be assigned.

E. New Business:

1. Mr. Pennington clarified his prior request that Commissioners receive a brief summary of names and backgrounds of existing and new boxing and MMA inspectors and other officials. Mr. O'Connell will compile this information.
2. Mr. O'Connell explained that at the recent ABC meeting he received information and made contacts with other states regarding the need for identifying potential new boxing and MMA officials and developing training and educational programs for new and existing officials. Over the next few months, Mr. O'Connell will develop a plan and proposals for these programs.
3. Mr. O'Connell reported on the press release prepared and issued on behalf of the Boxing & MMA Commission on July 30, 2011 which condemned the bare knuckle bout scheduled at Fort McDowell on August 5, 2011. Subsequently, the Association of Boxing Commission similarly issued a statement criticizing the bout. The bout did take place but afterward, the Yavapai nation informed the ABC that it would no longer stage such bare knuckle bouts.

F. Old Business: None

G. Commission Reports: None

H. Executive Session: None.

I. Call to the Public: No one spoke.

Announcements: None

Adjournment: There being no further business, pursuant to motion from Mr. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. Pennington, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis R. O'Connell

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